

The leaves have a very distinct median nerve and two in conspicuous lateral nerves, which is contrary to the description given in the protologue and also by Kern (loc. cit.). Similarly, the foliar bracts of the inflorescence also show a quantitative variation. More specimens are needed for further critical study of this rather rare species.

Specimens examined: INDIA: South Andaman, Mount Harriet hill ranges, Wright Myo, 15 May 1990, S.P. Mathew 20486 (PBL).

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39. NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS OF *BRACHIARIA HYBRIDA* BASAPPA & MUNIYAMMA (POACEAE) (With a text-figure)

During the course of studies on the grasses at the Central National Herbarium (CAL), we have noted new distributional areas of the species *Brachiaria hybrida* described by Basappa and Muniyamma in 1983.

Brachiaria hybrida Basappa & Muniyamma in Proc. Indian natn. Sci. Acad. B 49 No. 5. pp. 377-389. 1983.

Type: Holotype CAL; Isotype MH, BSI, BSJO, MGM.

After checking the herbarium specimens of *Brachiaria milliformis* (Pres) A. Chase and *Panicum distachyum* L. deposited in CAL the following specimens appeared to be *Brachiaria hybrida* due to the unequal leaf bases; panicle with single raceme; pedicel with 1-2 long white hairs (some specimens are with 1-3 long white hairs) and the absence of palea in the lower floret.

Andaman: Great Cocos Islands, 1889, D. Prain s.n., Herb. acc. nos. 520317 & 520318; South Andaman, S. Kurz s.n., Herb. acc. no. 520319.

Assam: Upper Assam, 1841, J.D. Hooker s.n. Herb. acc. no. 520311; Dibru Valley, 1850, Coll.?,

Herb. acc. no. 520308.

Bihar: Mongher, 1894, Mokim 1436.

Tamil Nadu: Coll. ? 47.

West Bengal: Santiniketan, July 1956, B.K.

Das s.n., Herb. acc. no. 520296; Gorumara, 7 January 1956, P.C. Nanda s.n., Herb. acc. no. 520275; Centre of Golapbag, Burdwan, 28 November 1966, D.K. Banerjee 4835; loc?, Coll.?, Herb. acc. no. 520290.

Flowers and fruits: April - September

So far, this species was known only from its type locality, Shimoga district of Karnataka (Basappa and Muniyamma 1983). The examination of herbarium sheets as noted from Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Andaman Islands show that *Brachiaria hybrida* occurs in south and east India and in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

We are grateful to the Director and Joint Director (CNH), Botanical Survey of India for all facilities for the study.

August 20, 1991

PAPIA MONDAL
D.C. PAL



Fig. 1. *Brachiara hybrida* Basappa & Muniyamma.

A. Habit (drawn from type material), B. Upper surface of spikelet, C. Lower surface of spikelet, D. Opened spikelet – a. Lower glume, b. Upper glume, c. Lemma, d. Lemma of upper floret, e. Palea of upper floret, f. Gynoeceum, g. Anthers.